The Christian Socialist

The Golden Rule Against the Rule of Gold

Vol. VIII. No. 18. CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1911 One Dollar Per Year

Whereas, The Constitution of the United States has been clearly violated in depriving John J. McNamara of his liberty without due process of law; and,

Whereas, Such spectacular demonstrations are calculated to inflame and prejudice the public against one who has had no opportunity to defend himself; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, the Christian Socialist Fellowship, in annual conference assembled, do indignantly protest against such high handed action as ungodly and wicked and unworthy the enlightenment of the twentieth century, and be it, further

Resolved, That we direct the attention of the church, especially, to the wrong and danger of premature judgment and condemnation, and that we call on the church to raise its voice against the power of Mammon, and to take its stand on the side of God and right and humanity.

A NEW DAY DAWNING

Comrade J. Frank Day will speak at Van Buren Hall, corner Madison and California Ave., Sunday morning, May 7th, at 11 a. m. His subject will be "The Kingdom of God on Earth." All Socialists with their friends will be cordially welcomed.

At the municipal elections recently held in Illinois several cities named officials under the commission plan of government for the first time. Four places, Granite City, Grafton, O'Fallon, and Davis, elected Socialist mayors. At Grafton the Socialist Mayor is the man who spent six months in jail rather than pay a $2 poll tax, and he defeated the man who put him in jail.

The city of Dixon held its first election for officers under the commission plan and a Socialist, H. A. Brooks, was pitted against a capitalist, W. B. Brinton, Democrat, President of the Grand Detour Plow Company and President of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association. The capitalist won by 126 votes in a total of 1,900.

FELLOWSHIP CONFERENCE

The next issue of the **Christian Socialist** will be devoted largely to an account of the General Conference of the Christian Socialist Fellowship, just held at St. Louis, the material of which is not on hand in time for this issue.

Resolved, That the Christian Socialist Fellowship highly appreciates the earnest and effective work done by the CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST in advertising the cause of Socialism, and especially commends its brave stand for the highest morality in private and political life. And that we express our approval of the action of the CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST in exposing the facts in the Barnes case and its demand for a real investigation. We take this action not in criticism of nor desire to interfere with the machinery of the Socialist Party, but because, in loyalty to the Party, we believe this action to be for the Party's good in helping to preserve its good name.

Adopted by the General Conference of the Christian Socialist Fellowship at St. Louis, April 27-May 1.

Report on Playgrounds

By M. Kathryn Spiers, Richmond, Va., Delegate to the Baltimore Convention from F. M. C. of R. & V.

[Parents in the country as well as in the city, and all people who have the advancement of the race at heart, will be greatly interested and instructed if they read such articles as the following. It contains useful, vital hints for people everywhere.—Ed.]

The Playground Association of America, which for four years past has held annual Congresses, decided this year to hold seven three-day playground institutes in different sections of the country. Playground experts bring to these institutes the best fruits of their practical experience. The one held in Baltimore, which I was privileged to attend as delegate for our Federation, was for the Middle Atlantic States, and was held, as is usual in such cases, in co-operation with the local Playground Association, under the direction of Lee F. Hanmer, associate director in the department of child hygiene of the Russell Sage Foundation of New York City. This gentleman called the first meeting to order at 2:30 p. m. on Thursday, January 12th.

The first paper was by E. B. De Groot, general director of field houses and playgrounds of the South Park Commission, Chicago, a young man evidently very much alive and in love with his work, and complete master of it. His subject was "Playground Equipment," one more or less touched upon by most of the speakers, and I may add that there was great unanimity of opinion shown as to the most desirable equipment as well as management. All favored playgrounds allowing of group arrangement according to age and sex, and the general consensus of opinion was that grounds should be screened from street observation for children over ten, because modest girls over that age would be disinclined to use the athletic apparatus if exposed to the stare of street loafers while thus engaged. Separate places and equipment should also be provided after that age, though both sexes should have occasional opportunity to meet and play together, under right conditions. "The first essential for a playground," said Mr. De Groot, "is shelter," and he cited a playground where land and equipment had cost $10,000.00 which, because unprovided in this respect, had been forsaken by the children for the shady "dump" across the street with no other equipment beside dirt. Next in importance, in about the order as named, come sand; water whenever in any way possible; seats, swings, hammocks, climbing poles and ropes, sliding boards and see-saws, rocking boats, play houses and flying rings. Giant strides and "flying Dutchmen" should all be provided if means were obtainable, but it is perfectly possible to conduct a very successful playground with simple and inexpensive apparatus. Nothing should be allowed to look neglected, and repairs should be promptly attended to, as neglect in these regards utterly demoralizes the spirit and order which it should be the aim of the director to secure and maintain. Opportunity for ball games as suited to age and sex should be given, as well as for quiet games like dominoes, checkers, chess, jack-straws, jack-rocks, etc., with a little music, story-telling and dancing for variety. The necessity for frequent change was emphasized, or, rather, the opportunity for frequent change, and in some cases change should be insisted upon, as when older girls might want to spend all their time in rafia work, sewing or embroidery, if allowed. Buttons, badges, special playground songs or colors, were all useful in cultivating a spirit of loyalty—any thing to give them a sense of ownership, or "belonging" to something.

Much of Mr. De Groot's talk at this time was of a technical nature, relating to the relative desirability of contracting with large manufacturers for equipment, or having it made to order by home talent; the height and kind of fences to be used for various purposes; the best kind of bearings for apparatus, and the best surface for tennis courts and playgrounds. Of all this I took notes which I have preserved for the use of the Council Committee if desired, but will not weary you with at this time. Mr. De Groot was followed by the secretary of the Free Public Bath Commission of Baltimore, Mr. Thomas M. Braddenkoff, who gave an interesting illustrated talk on Baltimore's public baths.

Changed Conditions

At the evening meeting, Mrs. Wm. Ellicott presided, and the first speaker was Dr. Edward W. Stitt, district superintendent of schools in charge of playgrounds and recreation centers in New York City, With [illegible] own superintendent of schools, Dr. J. A. Chandler, is in perfect accord. It was a plea for getting the full value of the immense investment represented by our school "plant," by providing for their use as evening recreation centers for working boys and girls. Every kindergarten room should be also a "Mothers' Room," Dr. Stitt declared, and evening schools should be held in summer as well as winter. In 1902 there were evening recreation centers in eight schools in New York City, and this year there are forty-two. Evening lectures are given in one hundred and twenty-five schools, and there are seven hundred clubs making use of school buildings with various aims—philosophic, social, civic and literary. In regard to playgrounds Dr. Stitt gave several excellent reasons for their existence, as follows: "To prevent idleness; to furnish opportunity for physical development; to teach the children to play organized games; to relieve parents; to keep children and young people out of street dangers; to encourage good reading; to furnish a place to safeguard morals; to bring happiness to children deprived of home happiness; and to develop the spirit of fairness and the spirit of comradeship." He called attention to the distinct change in home life and in industry in recent years, instancing the trade of carpentry. "A carpenter," said Dr. Stitt, "used to be a man who could lay floors, build doors or stairways or ceilings, or do any of the ordinary work required in house-building. He usually had a little shop back of his dwelling, where he did odd jobs of work with his children playing in the shavings. They had opportunities of intimate association with their father, and instruction in the use and care of tools, uses of different woods, and how to tell them apart, and so on. No one seems to realize how valuable as well as delightful this association and training was to both parent and child. Now the father works in a huge shop, perhaps, where hundreds of men are employed, each doing some one, special kind of work, or at any rate, at a distance from his home, leaving it before the little ones are up, maybe, and returning after they are in bed. He makes nothing but doors, or builds nothing but stairways, or does some other one thing, which allows him little or no play of the inventive or imaginative faculties such as he once had frequent opportunity for, and he has become a comparative stranger to his family." Organized, co-operative effort is now a necessity to provide that which was formerly provided by the diversified occupation which has been succeeded by specialized occupation. Little has yet been done to meet the needs of the parents whose lives are thus altered so much for the worse, but the playground is an attempt to save the children from the worst evils resulting. In New York there are playgrounds in connection with two hundred and fifty school buildings, one hundred and seventeen indoor playgrounds, and eleven outdoor playgrounds on vacant sites which have been acquired by the City as future school sites. By this far-sighted policy much money has been saved to the city. There are eight kindergarten centers for weak and crippled children, and one hundred and one "Mother-and-baby playgrounds," where the price of admission is a baby. It may be sister and baby, or a borrowed baby, and they are often borrowed. These had an attendance last year of 1,261,982. There was a total attendance at all the playgrounds and recreation centers of 5,609,081, a number that staggers the imagination.

Mr. De Groot succeeded Dr. Stitt with a brief talk on the modern idea of regarding a city as a unit in planning for all improvements and developments, including playgrounds and parks. Parks to a certain extent should be playgrounds, and to a certain extent playgrounds should be parks. A beautiful exhibition of colored lantern slides followed, giving maps of Chicago playgrounds and views or scenes in the same, accompanied by a running comment from Mr. De Groot. The main point in his talk was in favor of "active" as opposed to "passive" amusement. It is better, he said, to give opportunity for active development of athletic, dramatic or musical tastes, rather than to gratify them only by watching others perform. Folk dancing is preferable to the waltz or two-step, but anything, however good in moderation, may be overdone, and folk-dancing is no exception.

Games for Small Children

Friday morning the ideal chairman was Mr. Rowley of East Orange, and Mr. George E. Johnson of Pittsburg, Pa., was the first speaker, on the subject of "Games for Small Children." For common-sense and for physical and social reasons, he classified children under ten in three groups—babies, children from four to six and from seven to nine. Parents who visit playgrounds, or brothers and sisters who stand in the parental relationship, with babies to care for, should so far as possible be there relieved of care and responsibility. Therefore, provide hammocks for babies and children too weak for active play. Next, for children from four to six and upwards, comes the sand-pile, which should be large, frequently raked over and exposed to sun and air, and when possible, washed occasionally, and always guarded from unnecessary pollution and debris. Climbing bars and sliding poles should be provided, also suitable ball games and quiet games. He spoke of the social value of water-play, and insisted on the opportunity to develop the imagination and dramatic instinct furnished by play-houses. These led to the acting out of the whole community life, with free play to the imitative faculty. They would often have the store, the bank and the telephone with the play-house as a nucleus to begin with. The imitative instinct is bound to find expression. He related a story of a little Polish girl who asked a playmate whether she had ever ridden in a patrol wagon. Receiving a negative reply she began to boast: "My moders, she ride in one onct, and my faders t'ree time. When I gets big, I'm goin' to ride in 'em too!" As girls do not bear defeat as well as boys, informal competitive games should be so managed as to develop this ability, with a spirit of fairness. This speaker agreed with all the others in saying that co-operative games, or those calling for "team-work," are not appreciated until after the age of ten or eleven. Self-consciousness and love of display should be guarded against. An assembly hour with semi-formal exercises, was useful for all ages.

In the fifteen-minute discussion which followed Mr. Johnson's twenty-minute talk, it was brought out that Worcester, Mass, has a piano carried around to the different playgrounds every week. Music and singing were conceded to be desirable, and development of this feature to be sought. Mr. Stitt warned against becoming scholastic on the playground. Child and teacher should be free from a sense of being on show, or obliged to produce just so much evidence of progress, although exhibitions of work done are useful. Rotation and change are necessary. Commence with a period of active play, follow with quiet play, fifteen minutes of dancing, singing or story-telling, marching or conundrums—all controlled at the discretion of the director according to circumstances, weather, etc.

For Young Girls

Miss Beulah Kennard, of Pittsburg, then followed with a most interesting talk on "Playground Activities for Girls from Eight to Fourteen." It was a plea for special attention for girls from eleven to fourteen, an age which has been much neglected. Girls over eleven are seldom attendants at playgrounds for that reason. In playgrounds where there is not space for both boys and girls to be private, certain hours or days should be set apart for the use of gymnastic apparatus by the girls, and the wearing of playground suits (short skirts and bloomers), should be encouraged. Girls want tools, and opportunity to develop the imagination, to offset the cheap sensation afforded by moving picture shows. Better let them waste some material than fail to supply this need. They should have something pleasant to do themselves, instead of always tending babies and watching others play. Let them have pets, and be hostesses at inter-playground entertainments, furnishing lemonade or fruit to the visiting boys and girls. It occurs to me that the Federation might ask the school board to allow the use of kindergarten rooms, with piano, and individual clubs might well make sets of bean bags for the playgrounds connected with their schools, or furnish materials for the girls to make them themselves.

Working Girls' Clubs

Miss Kennard was followed by Miss Jean Hamilton of Boston, secretary of the League for Women Workers, speaking on "What to Do for Working Girls." She showed the great uses of independent clubs of working girls, under their own control, with teachers hired and paid by themselves, in developing initiative in women. One of the things women workers should be guarded against is too early specialization. While early excellence might seem to be attained, there would be a later falling off in the quality of work produced. Girls like to possess economic independence, because it adds to their importance and gives them the power to defy authority at home. Clubs teach them to work together to attain common ends, and give a proper outlet to their love of independence. Miss Hamilton told of a club of Jewish girls spending their money to buy a picture of Abraham Lincoln. She also related the story of a very prosperous club which, when advised to send a delegate to some special meeting of a central organization, instead of doing the usual thing, and sending their most devoted and useful member (who, being better paid than most, had money saved up and was going any way), said among themselves, "No need to send Saidie—she's going anyhow," and without a word of explanation or appreciation of all she had done, sent another girl too poor to pay her own way. "Saidie" was very much hurt, and at once sent in her resignation as secretary. But when she attended the large gatherings, she was so struck by what she heard there showing the beauty of making all selfish considerations subordinate to the good of the whole, that she walked in upon the next club meeting after her return, and said to the other girls, who were agitatedly discussing what to do about her resignation—"Well, girls, you made one mistake, and I made another. If you'll forget mine I'll forget yours, and we'll go on as before."

The Guild of Play

The closing feature of Friday morning's session was a talk on "The Guild of Play," by Miss Madeline E. Stevens, play supervisor of the Parks and Playgrounds Association of New York City. The London movement of this sort has been in existence much longer than in this country, and attempts to lead the children into organized or formal industries, but in America no effort of this kind is made. Here it is of but two years' standing, and has grown up from the most modest attempts to guide and help the children who, because they could not "kick the can" and build bonfires, would not enter the playgrounds. It tries to help the children to play with safety to themselves and others, and eventually lead them into the playgrounds. New games are introduced as possible, meaningless games are supplanted by those with some sense and meaning, and the effort is made to get the play to end with a story. New York City now has nine streets upon which permission to play at certain hours has been obtained, and the Guild has just succeeded in securing police protection. In the majority of cases the children reached by the Guild have no idea of fair play. This is the first thing to instil. If some room or sheltered place in the vicinity can be secured, it is taken advantage of in bad weather, and standard quiet games are taught. Little ones are protected from rough, large boys. Registration is found useful and possible after confidence has been won, and buttons worn by the "gang" help to instil a respect for order and pride of organization. The Parks and Playgrounds Association bears the expense. There are different leaders for different groups in different streets. There is no equipment except such as they make themselves.

For "Big" Boys

The chairman Friday afternoon was Judge Samuel Dalrymple, president of the Passaic, N. J., playground association. Dr. W. E. Meanwell, supervisor of public athletic league work in Baltimore, had a paper on "Games for Large Boys, from Twelve to Fourteen." Boys acquire self-respect and dignity, he declared, from practice in athletics. He favored organizations which would run themselves, and give scope to individual preferences. Boys should always be classified according to age and weight for athletic work. There should be formal gymnasiums in all parks of any size. Most of the afternoon was given to a demonstration of the Boy Scouts of America, in charge of Mr. H. L. Eddy, of the Baltimore Y. M. C. A. Mr. Arthur Carey of Waltham, Mass., in an address on "Boy Scouts," emphatically declared that the Boy Scout movement was not military in any sense, but that its purpose was to train boys in all-round preparedness, so that they might become resourceful men. The demonstration included the making of an Indian tepee with their fishing poles, first aid to the injured, fire and water rescue, and signalling.

Saturday morning there was a quite astonishing and instructive two-hour demonstration of what was possible in the way of exercise during a fifteen-minute recess, without equipment or much more than standing room.

A party of little children from the Maryland School for the Blind, gave examples of their games—"Three Blind Mice," and "Sandman," very touchingly, and then Mr. Seumas McManus, the famous Irish story-teller, told the children a story, which was enjoyed equally by the grown-ups.

Saturday afternoon was spent most interestingly in visiting the various parks, playgrounds, bath houses and swimming pools in the City, in automobiles furnished by the Baltimore Playground Association. One of their swimming pools, of two or three acres in extent (the largest in the country), made me feel envious for Richmond. We might so easily have something just as good, along the river banks somewhere. It has an artificial sand beach that rivals the seashore itself. It seems to me that our large parks should also be equipped with playground apparatus for all ages—we don't need to wait to acquire more land, though that should also be done.

The Sex Problem for Children

There was one subject which it was evident to me was uppermost in the minds of many of the workers present at this institute, which was still not specifically dealt with in any of the addresses, but I am confident that this omission will be remedied next year. This was the problem of sex instruction. It is a fact well known to all child welfare workers, as well as to all others who do not wilfully close their eyes to it, that there has been of recent years a most alarming increase and spread of immorality among the children and youth of this and other countries. There are many points of view from which this problem may be regarded, but from any of them it is equally deplorable and alarming. The Juvenile Court is one end of this question, and I am confident that the playground is the other and far more important, inasmuch as it deals with preventive measures. We are all familiar with the truism that an ounce of prevention is worth many pounds of cure. Says a noted writer on this subject: "The best moral protection for the child, the protection which will insure purity of thought and a true appreciation of life, is specific knowledge. Knowledge, properly imparted, means right thinking and right living." Or, as Tennyson has said: "Self knowledge, self reverence, self control—these three alone lead life to sovereign power." It is our bounden duty, in the crisis that confronts us, to explain to the child, fully, accurately and scientifically, the questions of birth and sex. The mothers' and fathers' duty, if you please, if they are competent to perform it—but how many are? Even those who more or less fully realize the gravity of the need, and are not disposed to allow a false delicacy to prevent them from attempting to meet it, are frequently obliged to confess ignorance and incompetence. So long as this is the case, it is the duty of the State to come to the aid of its citizens—its fathers and mothers. The time and place for this is in connection with playground work. The fully equipped and educated playground director may be required to be a competent instructor in this subject, or it may be placed in the department of the playground supervisor. The latter may be the most feasible early solution of the difficulty. It is time, at all events, that we began to consider this matter, for it cannot be much longer shunned or ignored.

The Voyage of Life

We are all voyagers upon the ocean of life, sailing by various and devious routes from the Port of Departure called Birth, to the Home Port known as death. These ports lie side by side, and over a third of the human race escape the perils of the voyage by the short route, departing this life in infancy and youth. Did it ever occur to you that this might be a permission of providence for the reason that this world has not yet become a thoroughly habitable place—a fit residence for the tenderest and finest souls? Might not this be another sort of "survival of the fittest" about which the materialists prate so much? The larger part of us, however, take the longer way. Directly outside the harbor of Infancy, in mid-channel of the bay of Social Complacency (which is well sheltered by the breakwater of Property Rights), lies the most dangerous reef upon our charts. Its base is buried in the mire and slime of the "under world," and its greatest length is under water. But near the harbor of Infancy its apex rises high above the surface, and stretches its jagged arms, often of unexpected length and sharpness, through the mists of Delusion with which it is usually shrouded. Need I say that its name is Impurity? A strong current of incalculable swiftness sets constantly toward it, and it is the exceptional pilot which brings a vessel to the Home Port unscarred by the slightest collision with any part of its ragged surface. Every day many a barque laden with all the earthly if not the heavenly happiness of its crew, is injured or wrecked thereon, and the only Port of Repair is the Home Port. What shall we think of the pilots and captains who are so rash as not only to neglect to seek the development in strength and skill which is essential to successful avoidance of this reef, but who ignore the charts which are offered and turn scandalized faces away in refusal of even a recognition of its presence? Must not such an attitude enhance a thousand times the dangers of the passage?

On the barque of Family Happiness the mother is the pilot at the helm as the father is the captain on the bridge. The one commands; the other guides. If the commander gets most of the plaudits for a successful voyage, the pilot is quite as apt to bear most of the disgrace if the ship goes down upon a charted rock in the channel. The best results will be gotten when captain and pilot never act without mutual regard to the knowledge and skill of each, and share equally in the responsibilities and rewards.

I would see the Federation become a training school for those who do not wish to fail to meet the requirements of this day and time as competent pilots, safely guiding their family barques past all the dangers which lie about the Port of Departure. Is not this a proper mission for an organization which stands for the collective manifestation of that mother-love of which the poets sing? It must have been an example of that instinctive grasp of the means of warding off danger from her young, which is so notably the possession of the finest types of motherhood, which led the Federation to take the part it did in the promotion of playground work. Let us all labor for the playgrounds, for I declare to you that they will do more to protect the coming generations from shipwreck on that dangerous reef, than all the laws restrictive of vice and promotive of virtue that can be passed by legislatures from now to the end of time!

What the Comrades Are Saying

The Barnes Case Arouses Great Interest Throughout the Country

One of our best and most loyal workers sent $10.00 for bundle of 20 copies per year.

* * *

Keep at them until you get them cleaned out.

George L. Washburne,
Ticonderoga, N. Y.

* * *

I am with you body and soul. God bless you for the stand you take on every question. God bless our cause and speed it a little faster, although we should be well satisfied with our present progress.

Yours sincerely and fraternally,
H. B. Kinmouth,
Montvale, N. J.

* * *

Bombard with vigor the unclean officers. We must drive them from the party. We as a party cannot win with those in power who do not uphold the principles of our cause.

R. A. Ross,
Kingman, Kas.

* * *

I wish to give wide publicity to the "Barnes case" among the older comrades and give them to understand that if they want to have a clean party they must support the only paper that has the courage to expose unclean officials.

Fraternally,
George F. Lelansky,
806 Plymouth Place, Canton, O.

* * *

Enclosed find $5.00 as an advance subscription to the **Christian Socialist**. I send this now to show my appreciation of the work you are doing, and to give you courage in your splendid efforts for a clean party. I have had a high appreciation of Rev E. E. Carr since I met him in Manitowoc some years ago.

R. W. Burke.

* * *

I wish for you to know that you have many friends in this city who appreciate the brave fight which you are making against the "Barnes" crowd. We are going to do something soon that they will hear from in tones that will not be mistaken.

Fraternally yours,
S. N. Silver,
Auburn, Me.

* * *

Santa Ana, Cal., April 26, 1911.

Dear Comrade—Enclosed please find draft for $1.00 to advance my sub one year. I most heartily approve of your stand for official cleanness. There are some leeches on the Socialist movement, of which I think Mrs. L. M. Lewis is one. She lectured in S. A. once or twice and I gained my impression of her at that time.

The man who attacks the character of Mother Jones is handling a boomerang. "Strength to your right arm."

Yours for Socialism,
J. G. Berneike, M. D.

* * *

A NOBLE WAY TO HELP.

Dear Comrades—"We are fighting for the truth." Keep up the fight against the wrong in the National Committee, and I will pray for your success. I wish to have one share of stock in the Co-Operative Printing Company. I enclose $10.00 for one share.

I love the **Christian Socialist** and those that make it. Yours fraternally,

Geo. B. Orendorff, Batavia, N. Y.

* * *

TAKE STOCK NOW

Rev. E. E. Carr, Editor **Christian Socialist**, Chicago, Ill.:

Dear Sir and Comrade—Inclosed I am sending you draft for $10.00 for which kindly send me one $10 share of stock in the Co-Operative Printing Company. I have been contemplating sending you this for some little time, but your brave stand for the right in the Barnes case convinced me that my present duty was to delay no longer. I for one thank you, for your endeavor to give us, that are not in position to find out the truth in such matters, a clear-cut statement of the whole matter. I believe that your course will add to your strength.

Yours fraternally, M. A. Penney.

* * *

FINANCIAL HELP NEEDED

Brooklyn, N. Y.

Dear Comrade—For the year 1911 I pledge two ($2.00) dollars per month—one dollar for the Fellowship and one dollar for the **Christian Socialist** paper.

We are more than glad to see the fearless attitude of the **Christian Socialist** in regard to the Jones-Barnes scandal, and fully approve of sifting the matter to the very bottom regardless of consequences or whom it may expose. We must keep unsullied our ideal Socialism and all for which it stands. Let **SOCIALISTS** be as they may, **SOCIALISM MUST NOT BE TRADUCED NOR ITS STANDARD LOWERED.** All true Socialists want any and all irregularity anywhere in the party uncovered and condemned. Only as we build honestly and righteously can our structure stand. We believe dear Mother Jones' statement is the truth.

Enclosed please find money order for twenty-four ($24) dollars and may God prosper the work of your hands. Yours for the kingdom on earth.

Mrs. E. B. Cooke, Brooklyn, N. Y.

* * *

Spokane, Wash., April 29, 1911.

Dear Comrade Carr—Enclosed find my check for $1.00 to renew my subscription for another year, in response to your circular letter.

I am with you in your fight on Secretary Barnes, and when the time comes round to elect a new National Executive Committee I will vote to displace all who voted to whitewash Barnes and to slander Mother Jones and other ladies. If Barnes had a particle of good sense he would resign that office. He is a disgrace to the party. Of all people, Socialists should be clean and their reputation and character above reproach. Why? Because we are expected to lead the world in morals as well as in economic justice.

I don't say this because I am a church member, for I never joined any church. Fraternally yours,

J. S. Lichty.

* * *

Dear Comrade Carr:

After carefully reading the C. S. issues of April 6th and 20th, I am wholly convinced that you are right in exposing the iniquity of national executive committee of the Socialist party.

As an evidence of good faith in the matter I herewith renew my bundle subscription.

The two militant issues above referred to I shall distribute in the local, other issues will be used in house-to-house free distribution, followed by a canvass for subscriptions. With best wishes I am,

Fraternally yours,
A. F. Green.

* * *

April 28, 1911.

I had concluded not to renew my subscription if you gave up the fight to wipe out the nasty immorality and dishonesty of the National Secretary and N. E. C.

Since you purpose to see that the Socialist party shall have a clean national party office I am sending $1.00 for the very best paper of its class that is published in this world. I am bitterly opposed to all immorality and especially the kind that has been going on in the national office. Don't let up until the whole nasty outfit is routed out of office and from the rostrum.

F. T. Willett,
Chester, Okla.

* * *

FIERCELY CONDEMNED

Dear Sir—In reading the last issue of the C. S. we are led to suppose that you are the one unspotted saint, who, from birth to the present time have lived a pure, immaculate life, and are therefore commissioned from God to throw stones at others. I dare not hurl them back at you, because I live in a glass house, but I dare exercise the right of any common sinner to say to you that if you had sold yourself to J. P. Morgan and Wall street, to assist in perpetuating their hellish government on earth, they would have ordered you to do just what you have done, and that you must properly be considered a deadly and accursed foe to progress and comradeship.

You will please erase my name from the list of subscribers to the so-called "Christian Socialist."

Yours for humanity,
Charles Bonsall,
Salem, Ohio.

We have had very few letters like the above, and surely Comrade Bonsall will think differently when he has had more time to consider.

We are not seeking to keep "sinners" out of the Socialist party, nor even to place a "saint" in the national office. **BUT WE DO PROPOSE TO PREVENT THE NATIONAL OFFICE FROM BE-**

ING USED AS A DEN OF INIQUITY. Our leaders must be decent men and women. If Comrade Bonsall really objects to this position, we are very sorry.

* * *

Dear Comrade—Enclosed please find 25 cents in stamps for which kindly send me 25 copies of the **Christian Socialist** of April 20. I want to give a copy to every comrade in our branch.

How is it that we haven't heard about this Barnes case in any of our other papers? If all is true that I've read in your paper I think we ought to put him out of the party, along with any others of his kind. We want to know all about this case, and any other case like it.

R. Wm. Wooby,
43 Spencer Place, Garfield. N. J.

* * *

Trent, Texas, April 25, 1911.

Dear Comrades—The two issues of your paper to hand and all of them were read, and I must say that I never in all my life was more surprised than I was when I read those papers. If a small portion of the evidence be true it's enough to cause a true Socialist to weep.

Comrade, I must say that I for one believe in a good, general clean-up, for if we have to go down, let us go down clean.

So find enclosed a check for $1.00 for which send me your paper one year.

Hoping that this matter will be adjusted to the advantage of the Brotherhood of Man,

Yours for the restitution,
Charles W. Watson.

* * *

PROSSER'S LETTERS

Under date of March 23d, Rev. Wm. A. Prosser writes: "Say, old fellow, suffer just a word from one that would serve thee in right to the end. Out of my love for thee and the work we both serve, let me ask thee to let that Barnes case drop, if it **can be done with honor and in justice.** Don't handle it further **unless absolutely necessary.** Suffer a little for the time being, if need be, rather than review it in the columns of the paper. I know your course in publishing it is not approved of by many of our members. Mark you, I do not say, Don't do it; but I do say, Don't do it—publish the matter—if there is a possible, honorable way out. Let it die as it deserves. God will vindicate Himself and thee and right will triumph in process of time."

Under date of April 14th Comrade Prosser says: "I am sorry for the last issue of the C. S. I somehow feel you erred in giving publicity to that foul stuff through the medium of our paper. I hope you haven't. I hope you are right and I am wrong. But I should feel better satisfied if there were some other way to publish and circulate that expose than through our splendid paper. However, I hope the movement will soon be rid of the cause that creates such situations."

Comrade Prosser's regret is deeply felt by every comrade in America—by none so deeply as by the Editor and Managers of the **Christian Socialist.** But the other Socialist papers would not take it up, the national bulletin was being used by Barnes to mislead the comrades, the N. E. C. had suppressed the charges and declared the affair "a closed incident" and made an assault upon Brower and Morgan for agitating the case and five months had elapsed **before we ever printed a line.** Then we only demanded a fair trial (see issues of Oct. 1 and 15). In answer to that very sane, mild and just demand, the N. E. C. made an assault upon the **Christian Socialist** through the official bulletin REFUSING TO PUBLISH WITH IT OUR HARMLESS EDITORIALS, which we requested in all fairness, the N. E. C. lined up solidly in defense of Barnes, when it should have assisted in the investigation, and urged the punishment of the accusers and the clearing of the accused BEFORE IT HEARD THE EVIDENCE. Then the "Investigating Committee"—God save the mark—gave white wings and a halo to Barnes and the others involved and put horns and hoofs on Mother Jones, Carr and the rest by as false and foolish a report as was ever put forth, AND THERE WAS NOTHING ELSE TO DO BUT MAKE THE WHOLE MATTER PUBLIC. Now these is nothing else to do but keep on till the national office is freed from the corrupting influences and personalities that have disgraced the party.

The comrades are rallying grandly, thank God, and now, no matter what happens to this paper or its editor, the movement is doubtless to be delivered from the conditions that make such painful publicity necessary.

THERE WAS NO OTHER WAY. The expert politicians who have so distinguished themselves in defense of Barnes could beat us at the "still hunt" business, and the comrades in general could never have learned the truth that way. The truth alone can make men free.

A TRUE BUGLE CALL

Twin Falls, Idaho, May 1, 1911.

Dear Brother and Comrade: For some time I have watched with interest your position in regard to our N. E. C. I fully believe you are rendering the greatest service to the Socialist Party of America by exposing the corruptions at our National headquarters.

I have stood for righteousness all my life. I have preached since I was sixteen years of age. I have been a student of sociology for twenty years and have lectured for Socialism for the past fifteen years. I have defended the movement against the attacks of our enemies on free-love lines, etc.

I now say: Let us have a house cleaning, a motion to recall Barnes from the Secretaryship and Mrs. Lewis as a National lecturer and member of National Executive Committee and all others who are on such lines. It will give our party a more healthful growth. I HAVE WORKED TOO HARD AND LONG AND SPENT TOO MUCH TIME AND MONEY TO LAY DOWN AND LET SUCH GO ON UNCHALLENGED. STICK TO YOUR POSITION! YOU ARE JUST RIGHT. DO NOT KEEP SILENCE! I am with you in this fight. I shall do all I can for the **Christian Socialist.**

Keep this agitation going until right prevails, truth is vindicated and "Righteousness shines as a lamp that burneth." OUR MOVEMENT WILL THEN GROW WITH LEAPS AND BOUNDS. I have been going around lecturing quite a bit and I find that Barnes has been mostly sending National speakers who have lectured along lines to his liking, and free-love, atheism, etc., has been peddled in the name of Socialism until it is operating against us. I have straightened out a few places this winter where Lewis a few years ago sowed the seed of discord and unbelief. We have had enough. LET US SEND OUT SUCH SPEAKERS AND SUCH ONLY AS WILL STICK TO THE QUESTION OF ECONOMIC DELIVERANCE AND BACK IT UP WITH THE MORAL STRENGTH OF UNTARNISHED CHARACTER AND THE VICTORY IS SOON OURS. Go ahead! I am with you. Your Comrade for a cleaner and purer movement,

S. W. Motley.

* * *

FROM A BRAVE STATE SECRETARY

Kalamazoo, Mich., April 15, 1911.

E. E. Carr, Editor Christian Socialist, Chicago, Ill.:

Dear Comrade—First let me state that I am not a member of the Christian Socialist Fellowship, nor am I particularly interested in proving the accuracy of the Socialist philosophy along scriptural lines.

I am, however, a believer in fair play and also in a higher ethical standard than Capitalism approves, and I believe that the future success of the Socialist Party demands that those who stand at its head, as representative men, should be men of integrity and clean men whose lives are free from vice, drunkenness and immorality.

I have read the reports of the N. E. C. relative to charges made against certain high officials of the party, I have also tried to get the other side and have read some of Morgan's "Provokers" and have just finished reading your number 14.

I am convinced that the incident is not closed and that the evidence is not all in yet, and I think the rank and file should **BE GIVEN ALL THE FACTS** and pass judgment on the facts. If the charges made by Mother Jones, Morgan, yourself and others relative to Barnes and the N. E. C. are correct these men should be fired bodily from the movement as a disgrace to the grandest cause that ever bound men together in battle for human freedom. If these charges are false and Mother Jones, Morgan, yourself and others are attempting to blacken the character and good names of these men then you are guilty of a gross offense, not worthy to be called comrades and deserving of severe censure and expulsion from the movement.

To defame and blacken a man's good name is an offense that is even worse than murder. To protect the Socialist Party from an immoral character whose life is unworthy and whose character is unclean is a most praiseworthy act, for the hope of success for our great cause through the agency of the Socialist Party is in keeping this party **CLEAN** and **TRUSTWORTHY** and free from **CORRUPTION.**

As the matter now stands I, for one, feel that there is much that must yet be brought to the surface before the incident will be closed. In other words, **LET US HAVE ALL THE FACTS FROM BOTH SIDES** and let the **RANK AND FILE** pass final judgment. Murder will out, sooner or later, and the **SOONER THE BETTER** for the cause of Socialism.

I am inclosing herewith a list of Michigan Local Secretaries and ask that you send them a marked copy of Number 14 and present a bill for same to the Michigan Executive Committee. If they will not pay it I will pay it myself. I want our Michigan comrades to **HEAR ALL SIDES OF THIS CONTROVERSY** that they may pass an intelligent judgment and not be governed by prejudice or overawed by "official" statements and the findings of a few individuals who may have had some special reasons for obscuring the facts.

Personally I shall try to withhold judgment until I feel the evidence is all in, and I am strongly impressed with the idea that the "half has never been told."

I admire your fearless stand. I can see how this will hurt you and in searching for your "motive" the only conclusion I have been able to reach thus far is that you are acting in good faith and for the good of the cause. If you are you deserve support, if you are not you deserve the severest condemnation. You should have a chance to testify fully and to bring every particle of evidence to support your case before final judgment is passed upon you and upon such characters as "Mother" Jones, whom I have never met, but of whom I have heard only words of praise.

Now that the pot has been opened let it be stirred to the bottom and the mess cleaned up and the vessel washed clean. Fraternally,

G. H. Lockwood,
State Secretary of Michigan Socialist Party.

* * *

Grimes, Okla., April 26, 1911.

The Christian Socialist:

Dear Comrade Carr—I have just read the issue of the 6th and 20th of the **Christian Socialist** and will say my heart sinks within me to read of the conduct of our national officers. I had read the official bulletin and had been led to believe that the charges were all false, but will say after reading your account of the matter I am bound to believe that something is rotten in the national office. I am nothing but a poor, uneducated farmer, but I am sure I want the party cleaned up, so I say go after them until you have cleaned them out. What an awful thing to think our N. E. C. has whitewashed those persons and to cap it off, the next investigating committee did worse than all. I can't say here in words what I feel, but will say this must be straightened out at any cost. The comrades, of course, don't know the straight facts about this matter. We should have an investigation of this matter by the party. Will say again, go after them. I enclose 25 cents for your paper for three months. Hope I will be able to renew again. Then will get up a club if possible. I am yours for the cause.

A. M. Underwood,
Sec'y. Local Spring Creek.

* * *

Moro, Tex., April 26, 1911.

Dear Comrade—When I first received sample copies of the **Christian Socialist** on the troubles at national headquarters, I doubted the wisdom of your course. I get the party bulletin from the national office. But since learning more of the true state of affairs I heartily approve of your expose. To keep silent is to fellowship their teaching and conduct, to an extent and give non-Socialists the whip hand over us.

If the N. E. C. will not take the proper action in this case it is time we demonstrated to the world the advantages of the recall. The party may yet turn this "trouble" to a victory for Socialism by the rank and file putting their stamp of disapproval on the teaching and practicing of free love.

Yours for a revolution in party morals,
G. B. Green.

* * *

PRAISE AND BLAME

April 26, 1911.

Dear Comrade—I have just finished reading the last issue of your paper and it is, as you say, "a terrible paper," but if it is the truth, and I think it is, it should be told and these freaks and their freak notions should be cleaned out of the party, and the sooner it is done the better.

I am not one of those who believe that official rottenness should be covered up, but, as you say, the cancer must be removed before it affects the entire movement.

But after reading your articles carefully I am surprised at the prejudice and unfairness in some of your criticisms.

Why make such a criticism of Berger? I do not think that the evidence is sufficient to drag the name of the only Socialist member of Congress into this nasty scandal. You are certainly not making friends for our side of the case when you stoop to personal spite work.

"The methods of a free-love woman." Some of the comrades' wives might tell a similar story of some of the men agitators. Then again, you say the Chicago movement has been damaged by three or four women, all of whom are grass widows.

Why take this shot at the so-called grass widows? Wouldn't it be better to say three or four women?

Go ahead with the investigation. We certainly need a good house cleaning, but if you want your work to have the desired effect, keep your personal feelings out of it.

I enclose check for five subscription cards sold on my last trip across the county.

Yours in revolution,
Clarence E. Martin,
Oil City, Pa.

Yes, it would have been better not to say "grass-widows," for the first dictionary meaning of the term is not well understood. There are doubtless many divorced women who are honorable and blameless.

If men agitators misbehave they should be exposed. Those who pose as saviors of mankind should at least be decent.

We did not drag Berger in. He went out of his way to throw the influence of his name around the woman so seriously accused, knowing nothing about the specific charges. The Investigating Committee deliberately misrepresented Berger's testimony to shield the woman behind his name. We merely stated Berger's testimony as he gave it. If it is uncomplimentary either to him or to her, let him take the blame. But it would have been better for him and for the American Socialist movement if he had not so recklessly tried to make the Barnes case his own. Even his big shoulders are scarcely broad enough for that. We have always supported Berger. We have no spite against him.

* * *

West Edmeston, N. Y., May 1, 1911.

Ed. **Christian Socialist**, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir: Not being a member of the party, I have no voice in its affairs, but I should like to give the views of one outside of the party, and I think there are many of the same mind, in regard to the Barnes case.

I have been a sympathizer for about two years and have intended to join the party for I believe in its principles, and that it is my duty to help what little I can.

Now all Socialist party papers make a strong point of the absence of graft and cleanliness of administration which would come with Socialism. The question arises in my mind, "How can the Socialist party keep the whole United States clean, if they cannot keep their own party clean?"

The question of guilt or innocence in regard to Barnes is unsettled and must be until he is given a trial impartial to either side, and with all the possible evidence produced. Whatever the result, whether proven guilty or innocent, the facts should be published not only to the comrades, but to the public that we may know that in voting for Socialists we are voting for a party entirely free from graft and able, if elected, to keep the country so.

This is the chance for the Socialist party to show the country whether or not it is able to, "make good."

By settling the question right, the party will make an extraordinary growth, in fact it means an early success; but by letting it drop, as at present, it means defeat and death to the party, as we are tired of turning out one set of rascals and turning another set in.

Fraternally,
Walter Crandall.

* * *

THE SOCIALIST MOVEMENT HAS NOTHING TO CONCEAL, NO SECRETS TO HIDE. LET THOSE WHO HAVE KEEP OUT OF THE LIMELIGHT.

A POLITICAL PARTY WITH PRINCIPLES OR OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES WHOSE TRUE CHARACTER THE WHOLE COUNTRY MAY NOT KNOW WOULD BE AS DANGEROUS TO THE PEOPLE AS ANY OTHER BAND OF CONSPIRATORS.

THE TRUTH ALONE, WITH COMPLETE DEMOCRACY, CAN MAKE MEN FREE.

TURN ON THE LIGHT.

* * *

NEW NATIONAL ORGANIZER

Walter J. Millard, who distinguished (?) himself in the Barnes case as a "juror on the side of the defense," is being further rewarded by Barnes by being sent out as national organizer. Do the comrades really want him?

* * *

LINVILL CHARGED HIGH

A well-known Indiana comrade writes as follows. We withhold his name at present:

"Dear Comrade—I have read the last two issues of the **Christian Socialist** with profound interest, shame and disgust, and I write you to say, for God's sake, and the cause of justice, purity and decency, GO AHEAD with your expose of rottenness at the headquarters of the Socialist party. I have been suspicious for several years of this coming fight. Those free-lovers and sympathizers must be put out of office in our party or it will be hopelessly wrecked.

"That Linvill affair is a slander on our Indiana convention. He sent in a bill of personal expense of $143.00, but our committee would not pay it, and sent him $41.50 and let him whistle, and that was $15.00 more than he should have had. Besides, he grafted the 'National' for $18.50. What do you think of that?

"Our State Secretary is all right, a clean man. Our comrades are sore at Linvill and we will deal with him.

"God bless you in your good work. Go ahead. I am with you to the limit."

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EDITOR
Rev. Edward Ellis Carr
Home Phone Midway 2340

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Rev. W. D. P. Bliss	New York City
Rev. Wm. A. Prosser	Pittsburg
Rev. Eliot White	New York City
Rev. J. Stitt Wilson	Berkeley, Cal.
Rev. Carl D. Thompson	Milwaukee
Mr. Harvey P. Moyer	Chicago
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Rev. Geo. Willis Cooke	Boston
Rev. Paul H. Castle	Kewanee, Ill.
Mrs. Kathryn Spiers	Richmond, Va.
Mrs. Ella Carr	Chicago

The weekly Christian Socialist was entered as second-class matter January 5, 1911, at the postoffice at Chicago, Illinois, under the act of March 3, 1879.

CHANGE OF NUMBER

No, Comrades, we have not moved again, but Chicago is having a complete readjustment of house numbering and the building which was No. 29 Randolph street is now No. 56 E. Therefore, please address all mail intended for us to **NO. 56 E. RANDOLPH STREET, CHICAGO.**

LET US UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER

Some one wrote us intimating that the Barnes case is a mere personal matter. This is wholly contrary to the facts and utterly absurd. There are no mere personalities involved—there never have been. It is entirely a matter of what kind of a national office and what kind of national officers the Socialist party wishes to maintain. From long and wide-spread knowledge of the Socialist movement we believe that the Socialist party members in general desire a national office and National officials who are free from the teaching and practice of "free-love," or "free-lust," as a prominent comrade in Michigan puts it. THAT IS THE ISSUE; and if the party members do not make their wishes known now in the most unmistakable terms, WE CAN NO LONGER DENY THE MOST DAMAGING ACCUSATIONS THAT THE ENEMIES OF SOCIALISM MAKE AGAINST US.

Also the Socialist party members in general desire honest, open management of party affairs. They do not desire important facts smothered and misconduct concealed by party officials, and they do not want to be ruled by bulldozing and star-chamber methods. If we were not sure that our position on these matters, when fairly understood, will meet with the general approval of the comrades, we would not wish to be connected with a party so unworthy and so hopeless.

And the comrades are speaking up grandly as fast as they learn the facts. Nearly all the letters we get are favorable to our position, and the Miners Magazine has had the same experience. Some letters come from people who want the thing hushed up at any cost, and some letters come which are too vulgar to print from those who evidently do not care what immoralities curse our national movement; but the party members have already spoken in no uncertain terms.

The Hallettsville amendment to the party constitution, which called out one of the largest votes—if not the largest, that any issue ever received, was carried by a handsome majority, and is distinctly a vote of "lack of confidence" in the whole present party administration; for it puts the present national officials all out of business at the end of the present term. We have letters from different state secretaries, from various locals and from National Committeemen heartily approving our course and offering aid.

The battle will be won, never fear, no matter if it does temporarily cripple the **Christian Socialist**. But we counted all possible cost and are ready to suffer all necessary consequences.

With reference to the N. E. C., we hold some of its members in great personal esteem. But they have made more than one gigantic mistake in connection with the Barnes case and have proven themselves too arbitrary, unjust and unwise in their policy to deserve re-election. They have been honored with official power so long that they naturally have become tyrannical. The party has many able men who could most acceptably take their places.

And it is becoming more doubtful all the time whether the N. E. C. is at all necessary. Perhaps the National Committee could do the work more justly and save much money to the party.

Berger's own state, Wisconsin, has built up the strongest Socialist movement in America BY REFUSING TO LET THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION DOMINATE IT. For years it refused to pay regular dues to the national office, and yet refuses to allow the national office to interfere with its internal work. The national office cannot even date speakers through Wisconsin, except through the State Secretary. And, we understand, that the list of local Secretaries in Wisconsin is persistently refused to the national office as well as others.

If Berger and his supporters so utterly distrust the N. E. C. and the national office, how can they consistently insist upon this small coterie of men ruling the rest of the states?

The party should be more democratically managed; and that it may be so the comrades must know more of what is going on, and they should use the referendum more. The cost of the referendum is more than justified by its educational advantage alone. Every Socialist paper should also be open for frank discussion of issues and of candidates.

Let us dare to be truly democratic.

NATIONAL MOTIONS

By Collinsville, Oklahoma, Local

Motion No. 1.

That we demand the immediate resignation of J. Mahlon Barnes, National Secretary of the Socialist Party.

Motion No. 2.

That we demand the immediate resignation of every member of the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party.

Comment

Comrades: It is with feeling of embarrassment, humiliation and shame that we present the above motions for your consideration, and urge your immediate action thereon.

Comrades: We have a solemn duty to perform, one that has been forced upon us, and to keep silent now would be treason to our party. And that duty is to demand and maintain official purity in the Socialist Party.

Comrades: A crisis is upon us; shall we survive or perish; without official purity we are sure to perish.

The information received from different parts of the country relative to the recent Barnes Investigation, forces us to believe that our National office and our National Executive Committee, are officially corrupt and has created a political stench upon us that can only be purified by a vigorous official cleanup; are you with us?

All locals seconding above motions please send postal card report to the undersigned, and send seconds to National Office.

Please publish. Geo. W. Butts, Secy.

Notes and Comments

—BY—

GEORGE H. STROBELL

5 Lincoln Park, Newark, N. J.

I have been reading a book that is to take a recognized place among the best this era has brought out. It deals with the early history of the workers of our country. It is called Workers in American History. It is not a large book, but its 125 pages are full of the plainest and strongest language depicting a state of society that is easily recognized as the father of the present. Every worker should have it. It arouses the most intense determination in the reader that class injustice and rule shall cease. The author, Comrade James O'Neal, of Terre Haute, Ind., one of our most energetic speakers and campaigners, is to be congratulated on his work. The book is 25 cents and the address of the author is 831 N. Third street, Terre Haute, Ind.

* * *

Every Socialist has certain legitimate demands made on him for the work in his own locality, his own state and his share of the national work. Most of this in state and nation is discharged by our dues system. But there come sometimes some exceptional calls that transcend local boundaries. One of these calls made now, should find a response, generous and immediate, from our twenty thousand readers. The Socialist victory in Milwaukee was a help, an inspiration to the Socialist party. It gave us new life. It started the final stage in the weary up-hill fight and it showed the way to those who have in so many contests this spring won or come close to victory. The school election in Milwaukee strikes a note of warning. From now on the opposition will unite. In order to win a majority must be secured. That majority cannot be secured without a daily paper. That is, while it may be secured, it cannot be held securely until there is a Daily Herald to expose the lies of the half dozen Milwaukee daily demo-publican sheets. Our comrades there need your monetary assistance to get this paper started. Take a share of stock or make a donation. Address The Social Democratic Herald, Milwaukee, Wis. We must hold that city for Socialism.

We have to smile. Years ago, anything the master class took in hand went through with bells on. Those opposed, scattered and bulldozed and without the ear of the public, were silenced. What a change. Here comes this Boys' Scout movement, and in their ignorance and simplicity the usual touters of the philanthrophy of the master class, both lay and clerical, enthuse over it. But the Socialist party organization, 80,000 strong, in groups of two or three in every city and hamlet, projects itself into the point of view, and, after some gnashing of teeth and wailing there is—silence. If you want to express your opinion to some pastor or friend who is booming this militarist organization, send for and distribute Comrade J. C. Hogan's "Boy Scout" "Open Letter." Address him at Spring City, Pa. The leaflets are 50 cents a hundred.

* * *

The Arizona constitution, with all its radical features, including the recall of the judiciary, was adopted by the voters of the state. Only 22 per cent voted against it. But the people of the new state will find out that a radical constitution does not obviate the necessity of organizing the Socialist party. Citizens of Oregon will bear witness.

* * *

The Memphis (Tenn.) Commercial Appeal, one of the most influential dailies in the southland, reviews Socialism and concludes: "This is a safe and sane proposition. That system of government will reach perfection and human society will be in its full flower when every man can be assured that by honest work he will be able to maintain himself and wife, who may bear him as many children as nature intended for her to have, and that he may rear those children decently and support himself and wife in his old days."

* * *

Victor Berger's first resolution in Congress calling upon Taft to withdraw the troops from the Mexican border and furnish the House with all documents relating to the maneuvers has aroused the big capitalist dailies, and they are asking what that demand has to do with Socialism, evidently overlooking the fact that the cardinal principle of international Socialism is the abolition of war. Berger played the right card at the right time.

It is said that the extra session of Congress will last at least five months and will consider much legislation. Berger has been assigned a place on the Committee on the District of Columbia, because of his knowledge of municipal matters. He will also be assigned on two more committees, one of which will probably be the Labor Committee.—Cleveland Citizen.

The Japanese government is likely to pay dearly for the judicial murder of Dr. Kotoku and his comrades because they dared to voice the spirit of freedom. Latest advices from Japan show that a great wave of revolt is sweeping over the country. The younger generation especially is becoming revolutionary. In proportion as the revolutionary movement grows the possibility of war between that country and the United States disappears. Japan will be kept pretty busy at home before five years have passed.

* * *

The right to live, the right to labor decently and healthily in order to live decently and healthily the right to maintain a home, the right to the product of one's labor in the interests of himself, his loved ones and of society itself—make no mistake about it, the people are getting ready to declare a new bill of rights!

And where do you stand in relation to this great cause of humanity? That is the important question.

* * *

Socialists and unionists of Pennsylvania have secured 200,000 signatures calling upon the legislature to abolish the Cossacks, as provided in the bill of Representative Maurer, the Socialist plumber.

* * *

The German Reichstag by a large majority rejected the Socialist motion calling upon the government to take "immediate steps leading to an international agreement concerning universal limitation of armaments and the abolition of the right of capture at sea." All the "peace" talk of the capitalist regime is pure buncombe. There will be no peace until the workers control the governments of the world.

* * *

Prominent Socialists of Italy were invited to enter the new Giolotti ministry, but rightly refused, as they would have to depend upon a coalition, which would have fallen apart directly real Socialist measures were proposed. The new ministry as a consequence, has formulated a democratic program in which many of the demands of the working class are incorporated. But whether the politicians make good their promises is another question.

* * *

Rev. Cyrus Townsend Brady in an address to a body of woman suffragists recently declared there were two hundred arguments against female suffrage in the hall. He referred to the clothes and hats worn by the women. We wonder if Cyrus Townsend Brady wears a stovepipe hat on the street and puts on a spike-tailed coat when he eats his dinner.

The Live Ones

Edited By

MRS. ELLA CARR

Dear Comrades: As the beautiful spring days are here again, we plead with you to remember that there should be no ceasing of your toil for the helpless suffering millions of God's very own children who must have our constant efforts to remove the causes of their wrongs and oppressions or they will die in their hopeless condition. If we could only put ourselves in their places how we might then realize the urgency of deliverance. Let us never forget our deep obligations to wronged, robbed and oppressed Humanity.

What the Comrades Say

"The C. S. as a weekly is certainly making good and I could not think of doing without it."

D. L. Hancock, Missouri.

"Enclosed find one dollar for the greatest paper on earth."

Harold Erickson, Minnesota.

"I won my debate on Socialism before a large crowd that thought I was to defend a brand of anarchy. I must have gained some followers for the cause for the verdict was a house vote two to one proportion. Enclosed find subscription for one year. The **Christian Socialist** has wonderfully met my needs."

Ray M. Kaig, North Dakota.

Comrade A. M. Brundage of Alabama sent for copies of our March 30th number for every preacher and priest of Mobile. He writes, "You are doing a wonderful work in that publication. Success to you."

"The March 30th issue is a grand number and I want to send it among our church people. The A. B. C. of Socialism by H. P. Moyer is the best explanation of Socialism I have read. Every article in this number is fine."

Mrs. C. D. Stedelin, Wash.

The Scouts

"We are starting a scout organization and have a few good energetic workers. The last bundle was all sold by one scout."

L. Cudroff, New Jersey.

We believe this plan will do untold good. People are very apt to read papers which they pay for. Let comrades everywhere form such organizations. They will create great interest and enthusiasm among workers and sow the good seed of the Kingdom.

Comrade F. A. Dertinger and his son of Virginia distributed copies of the **Christian Socialist** upon which was stamped the notice that his son would call next week to take subscriptions or sell them at two cents each per week. This too, is an excellent plan and will surely bring results. We must by every means in our power wake up and shake up the people. O how indifferent many are, especially those who now have good jobs.

BUNDLE ORDERS

Comrade L. R. Grinnell of New York sent for 500 copies of the March 30th number. Comrade E. A. Wickstrom of Nebraska ordered 250 copies of this same number, while Comrades H. D. Ackerman of Pennsylvania, and C. A. Weeden of North Dakota each sent for 100 copies. Comrade G. P. McCorkle of New Mexico, writes about this issue, "There are some of the best articles in this number I have seen and I am eager to send them to my relatives."

Comrade R. E. Tesrean of Missouri sent $3.00 for 50 copies each week for six weeks. He writes, "We are going to try to make better Christians of church goers by trying to convert them to the true Brotherhood of Man, 'Socialism.'"

The Washington Fellowship

Comrade D. C. Sherman of Washington, D. C. sent $6.00 from the Fellowship Center to send the **Christian Socialist** for three months to a selected list of clergymen.

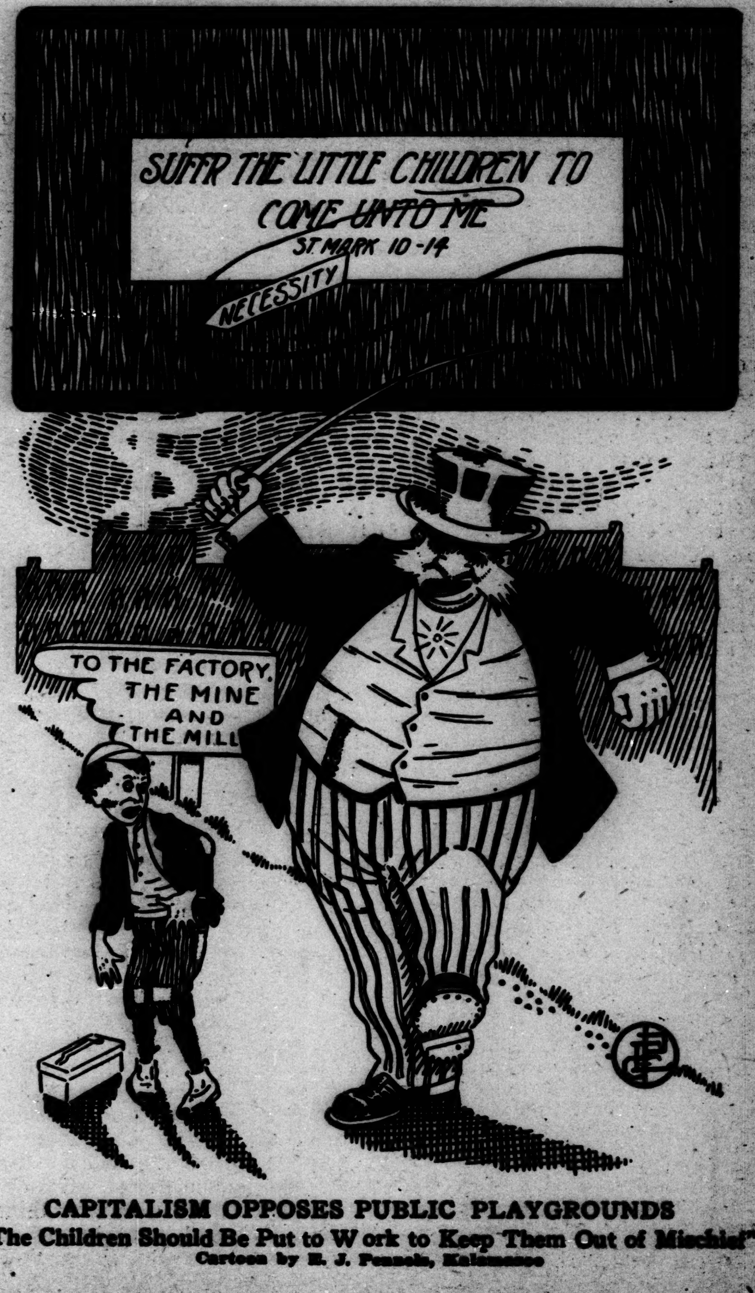
Comrade A. R. Greenwall, secretary of the Branch of Ridgeway, Pa., sent for 20 six-month subscription cards. If this local will sell these at the regular price they can get their money back and have enough besides to send in another order for 20 six-month subscription cards. Help your local and help the cause at the same time. It all means more propaganda work done.

Our Splendid Workers

Our old faithful comrade, Robt. H. Austin of Texas, has sent six of his hard earned dollars for subscriptions and cards.

Comrade Jno. L. Way of California, also one of our loyal workers, sent four dollars for subscriptions and writes, "Count on me to assist you in the good work. Keep up the good fight for Christian Socialism."

Comrade A. F. Glover of Pennsylvania sent $7.00 for copies and cards. While Comrades Peter Schultz of California, C. W. Albright of Ohio and R. A. Ross of Kansas, each sent $5.00 for subscriptions and cards.



CAPITALISM OPPOSES PUBLIC PLAYGROUNDS

"The Children Should Be Put to Work to Keep Them Out of Mischief"

Cartoon by E. J. Pennels, Kalamazoo

The International Sunday School Lessons for 1911

By Rev. Wm. A. Prosser, Pastor Hazelwood M. E. Church, Pittsburg, Pa.

.LESSON FOR MAY 14

Isaiah's Vision and Call to Service. Isaiah 6:1-13

Golden Text: Isaiah 6:8. I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I, send me.

The Prophets

What a splendid class of men the prophets, ancient and modern, are? The world has never had a superabundance of them, but as many as it has had, it had been the better for having them. We have had a glimpse of a few of them, such as Micaiah, Elijah and Elisha, and now we are to look into the soul of Isaiah, another of the same type, perhaps the greatest of the Old Testament prophets. God called them from all walks of life, which indicates that God is no respecter of persons and that no one class of society has a monopoly on the character and function of the prophet. Like Elijah, some have come from the wilds of the wilderness; others, like Elisha, from the quiet of the farm; and others, like the Christ, from the artisan class; and still others, like Moses, Isaiah and Paul, from the schools and exclusive society. But come from where they will they are great men, who, like Saul, stand head and shoulders above their fellows. They can always be recognized, for they stand out in character and message in striking contrast to the professional, canting, mercenary priest, scribe and Pharisee.

The greatness of the prophetic class consisteth not so much in mental calibre, verbal utterances, literary productions as in spiritual qualities. They have splendid mental powers; they speak with the word of authority, and when they write, they write with the pen of the ready writer and in a style all their own, but they also have soul; and the greatness and power of the former are the results of the greatness and honesty of the latter. Because pure in heart they see things; they see God, themselves and society. Because attentive and obedient they hear things; they hear the call of God and of crushed humanity, to duty, to self-sacrificing and heroic service. Because responsive and bold they do things; they match vision with consecration and perform their tasks in spite of hell. They are at one with God, with themselves and with the demands of duty, and throw themselves an undivided and unreserved force into everything they do. They speak and act with power and authority because they do so with the passion and consent of their whole being. Because they are a unit, a unit in vision, conviction and obedience, they stand out as massive oaks in the midst of saplings.

But great and glorious as are these men in "light and leading," they are always regarded by their generation as heretics, traitors, disturbers of the peace, enemies and devils; and are maltreated. They are always the world's best benefactors, but the world always treats them as its worst malefactors. The generations in which they live tempt, mock, scourge, stone, imprison and kill them. See Hebrews 11:32-40. A prophet gets no honor in his own age and from his own people. His vindication and glory, if they come at all, must come from future ages.

His Vision

Isaiah had a vision. He tells us he saw God, his country and himself. These are splendid objects to look upon; and to understand them as they are is to become wise. What kind of a God did Isaiah see?

But he saw more than God; he saw his nation through God. He read and judged men, positions, social conditions and current religious practices in the light of his new conception of God. Because he got a new theology, he also got a new sociology; and both were different from the vulgar kind in vogue.

He says he got his vision in the year Uzziah died. This is the famous king we studied in our last lesson. There is here suggested not only a chronological note, but a tremendous moral contrast. Uzziah was the most powerful and famous king on the throne since Solomon. He had subdued the enemies of the nation right and left and had extended the boundaries of the kingdom far beyond any previous king. He had built up a massive material reign on the basis of his military strength and ingenuity, and his name and glory had spread to the ends of the earth. He was a hero, lauded and worshipped by his nation, and regarded as a special favorite of God. In the midst of all this, when he was at the zenith of his power and glory, Uzziah was stricken down by God with leprosy for his presumptuous sins. With him the pride, boast, hero-worship and prosperity of the nation were also struck and the people thrown into confusion. It was then, says Isaiah, I saw another King and Empire. I saw the Lord high above all human princes filling the earth and reigning in holiness. It was then that he saw that Uzziah was not the Lord, but Jehovah of hosts;-that Judah was only a small part of God's empire and the Israelites only a small portion of His family; that the extension of the empire and the unprecedented prosperity were not signs of God's special favor, but proof positive of a system of exploitation, grinding the face of the poor; that special classes and extreme social conditions were the result of arbitrary laws and theft; that all their regular, elaborate and costly worship was a mere pretense, a sham to cover their bloody hands stained with the blood of helpless human victims, a stench in the nostrils of God and wholly rejected by Him; and that God would work a revolution, bring order out of chaos, through the crushed but holy remnant. It was then that he saw that his nation, though big and prosperous, was a nation rotten to the heart proud, haughty, unjust, vile, false; a nation of unclean lips. (Isa. 1-6.)

At the same time he saw himself. A revelation of God and of society never fails to reveal the individual. He saw himself as a part of the social lump. He saw that he shared in the common superstitions, prejudices and practices of the people. He had been guilty of the same preconceived notions of God, society, social conditions and religion as were cursing his nation and preparing it for certain doom. He had believed with those about him that the system in vogue and things as they obtained were of God's ordering; and were right. Then he saw that his nation was wrong and he was wrong with it; that it was all a sham and he was a sham, too; that the nation was a people of unclean life and he was an unclean man among them. Little wonder that he grew dizzy and saw the foundation of things shake when he saw the revelation! It is no miracle that he became a changed man.

His Call

The first thing that followed his vision of God, society and himself was an intense consciousness of personal and social sin. He and his nation had been thinking and acting in the terms of an antiquated theology and sociology; on the principles of an ecclesiastical, social and political system that relegated God from the realm of moral life and confounded His favor with a prosperous exploiting regime. His personal sin was his participation in these things. This he saw was wrong. When, like the "Prodigal son" he came to himself, he arose, confessed his sin and shook himself loose from the whole thing. His guilt overwhelmed him and he saw he was a man, like his nation, of unclean life and undone.

Following his vision, repentance and regeneration he heard something—"the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" This was a Divine call to duty and like a man born from above, he boldly unhesitatingly accepted the challenge by offering himself. Here am I, said he, send me. But where shall he go and for whom? He shall go to his nation, to the people of unclean lips he had just seen and expose their false conceptions, their tyrannical social and political system, their hollow mockeries and shams; and do it in the name of the Almighty, Universal and Holy God, who had appeared to him. His duty was to preach what he had seen and demand from the nation, what he himself had done; a genuine repentance of their social practices and a turning unto righteousness.

The call of Isaiah is worthy of note. No direct summons was addressed to him, no compulsion was laid upon him, no tempting bait was offered; he simply heard the voice of God asking generally for messengers, and he on his own responsibility answered it for himself in particular. His call was impersonal; it grew out of his vision of the religious, social, economic and political conditions of the times and the need of the age for men with a message of reconstruction and salvation. And his consecration, the offering of himself to the work, grew out of a personal sense of obligation to God and men to do the work. Strictly speaking there was nothing inviting, promising, mercenary or material in it. It was a general Divine call for men and a moral response from the soul of Isaiah to that call. That is all; but that is both necessary and sufficient to make any man a Godly and heroic prophet.

Commission and Loyalty

Having offered himself for service he was prepared to receive his commission; but hardly prepared to receive such a commission that he did. Probably never did man receive so awful a commission as Isaiah received. "Go," said the voice, "and tell this people, Hear ye indeed —continually, but understand not; and see ye continually, but perceive not. Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart, and turn again and be healed." It is little wonder that at this point the prophet interrupted and exclaimed, "Lord, how long?" how long must I keep at this business, or how long will it take the process to culminate in disaster? Whatever meaning we put into the exclamation the answer is plain—"Until the cities be waste without an inhabitant, houses without a man, the land become utterly waste, and Jehovah have removed men far away, and the forsaken places be many in the land." There is but one ray of hope in the commission. It is that the holy seed, the remnant felled and crushed, shall sprout forth again in a new tree.

But dark and difficult as was the commission Isaiah was loyal to it to the end. Dark was his day and the light flickered low; narrow was his path and hard was his road, but he kept on faithful to his trust until, according to tradition, forty years after his vision and the consecration of himself to the work of God, society, this fat-hearted, morally blind, deaf, and dumb nation, this brutal octopus, paid him in full for service rendered by putting him between two planks and sawing him in twain. He did his duty indifferent to results, to treatment or personal feeling. No man could do more and no man should do less.

Lessons

Where there is no vision the people perish. If there is no Ideal there can be no progress. If there is not one far off Divine event towards which all conscious creation moves then is the world of sentient being a hopeless miasmatic swamp.

The man who would lead in reform or revolution must be a man of vision. He must live in a world away above and beyond the age in which he has his being and in the light of that new discovered world judge the world of today. It is a vision of things as they should be that inspire men to demand a change in things as they are. Moses, Isaiah, Christ, Paul, Mazzini, Marx, and Lincoln were men of such vision and inspiration. It was their deep, profound convictions and clear insight into things as